

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1 – 29 are pending.

Claims 1 – 29 are subject to restriction requirement.

Claims 1 – 20 have been elected.

Claims 21 – 29 have been withdrawn.

REMARKS

Restriction Requirement

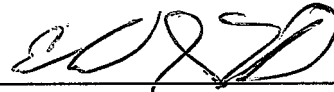
Restriction has been required between Group I (Claims 1 – 20), Group II (Claims 21 – 22), and Group III (Claims 23 – 29). Applicant elects Group I (Claims 1 – 20), without prejudice and without traverse. Accordingly, Applicant has withdrawn Claims 21 – 29, such withdrawal being without prejudice, and reserves the right to reintroduce these claims for prosecution either in the pending or a subsequent application.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes he has addressed all outstanding grounds raised by the Examiner and respectfully submits the present case is in condition for allowance, early notification of which is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any questions or outstanding matters, the Examiner is cordially invited and requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at his number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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